

13th November 1922] [Mr. Muhammad Usman Sahib]

the present Advocate-General are unworthy of the persons who made them and unworthy of a petition to the Council. With these words I support the motion that the Bill be passed into law."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill as amended was finally passed into law.

VIII

THE MADRAS SURVEY AND BOUNDARIES BILL, 1921.

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD HABIB-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, I have the honour to present the report of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the law relating to survey of lands and settlement of boundary disputes and to move that the Bill as amended by the committee be taken into consideration. In doing so, I do not consider it necessary to make any remarks in regard to the report of the Select Committee, a perusal of which ought to convince every hon. Member of this House that it is so full, so clear and so lucid that it does not require any comments from me. But I think I feel bound to pay my tribute to the members of the Select Committee for the great trouble they took, for the time which they spent and for the attention which they paid to the discussion of the Bill."

Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR (*Advocate-General*):—"I second it."

Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN:—"I oppose the reading of this Bill. I do so under Standing Order 44 (i) which clearly states: 'that the Bill as reported by the Select Committee be taken into consideration but any member may object to its being so taken into consideration if a copy of the report has not been available for the use of members for seven days . . .'. This report was sent to us very lately. Evidently we have not had sufficient time to go through it and send in our amendments. I think hon. Members will take this point into consideration and oppose the Bill being considered."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD HABIB-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur:—"I am not at all aware of the date on which it was despatched from the Legislative Council office or the date on which it reached the hon. Members. All that I know is that I had given notice on the 30th October."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"It seems to have been all right."

Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN:—"I have got a postal cover showing the date on which I received."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Very good. The standing order says 'and such objection shall prevail unless the President in exercise of his powers to suspend this order allows the report to be taken into consideration.' I suspend the order and allow the Bill."

Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN:—"I hope the hon. Member for Government will not raise any technical objection with regard to the discussion of the amendments of which I have given notice. I hope all the amendments of the hon. Members have come in the revised agenda."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—"The difficulty that has been pointed out only strengthens me in moving for the adjournment of

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] [13th November 1922]

this motion to the 18th December next. It has been stated that copies of the Select Committee's report have been received very late and the amendments covering eleven pages were received by the members this morning at 11 o'clock. We have had no previous notice of these amendments. I think we should know what these amendments are and must have sufficient time to go through the Select Committee's report and send in our amendments. Therefore, I move for the adjournment of the further discussion of this matter to 18th December."

Mr. T. SIVASANKARAM PILLAI:—"I second it."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"With reference to this motion I wish to say one or two words in support of this motion. I was a member of the Select Committee and there were very many important questions that came up for the consideration of the Committee, and the members disposed of the various items to the best of their ability. I believe there is something in what has been stated namely that this Bill with the report of the Select Committee has not been in the hands of the hon. Members sufficiently long and the large number of amendments that have been handed over to us this morning show the interest which the members of this Council take in this matter. I believe that, so far as I have been able to gather, the general sense of the House is that the consideration of this Bill should be adjourned. I understand also, I may be right or wrong, that the hon. Member on behalf of Government will not be opposed to the adjournment. That is what I understand and in any case that is the general sense of the House. There is one fact which I should like to mention and that is that this Bill has been under consideration in the Select Committee for over two years and no harm will be done by postponing the consideration of this for another month."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD HABIB-UL-LAH SAHIB

4 p.m. Bahadur:—"I may at once state, Sir, that so far as I am concerned, I have not the least intention of bustling through any legislation.

I quite realize that a large number of amendments have already been tabled and I also realize the fact that a pile of them was laid on the table of the House only this morning. Individually I am quite ready to proceed with every one of them, but I see that most hon. Members who are here plead unpreparedness. I have not the least intention of taking advantage of that unpreparedness. The more prepared they come the more hopeful would I be of probably convincing them so as to adopt my point of view (hear, hear), and therefore, Sir, I shall have no objection whatsoever to the postponement of the consideration of this Bill to the 18th December 1922."

The motion was put and carried, and the further consideration of the Bill was accordingly postponed to 18th December 1922.

IX

A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS PORT TRUST ACT, 1905.

When the above subject was announced by the hon. the President, the hon. Sir CHARLES TODD HUNTER (the Member in charge), coming in a little late, said:—"Mr. President, I owe you my sincere apologies for this delay. I had no idea that the other Bill would suddenly fall out, and I was correcting certain verbal alterations to this Bill that were brought to my notice at the last moment.